

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Bulgaria

REPORT

SUBJECT Recruiting and Temporary Call-ups
in Nevrokop Okoliya

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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1. In February 1953, a recruiting commission sat in the Children's Home in the center of Nevrokop and screened the classes of 1933 and 1934. The men of a given village were called on a specified date indicated on white call-up orders. The 56 men in those two classes in Musomishte were called for 10 February 1953.
2. The men called up were given a medical examination and a chest X-ray, and their "coefficient" was measured. This "coefficient" is the relationship of medium chest expansion to weight and height and is found by adding the chest expansion in centimeters to the weight in kilograms and subtracting the sum from the height in centimeters. The best "coefficient" is from 15 to 18.
3. The men then appeared before a commission consisting of several Army officers and one person responsible for military matters in the Community Council of the men's village, or the Communist Party official from their village responsible for security. After being questioned, the men were given a white slip with a statement that they were fit for military service but not indicating where or when they would be called up. This text was printed twice on the slip.
4. All men of the class of 1933 and those of the class of 1934 who had completed high school in the village of Khadzi Dimovo (formerly Zhostovo) (N 41-31, E 23-52) were called up on 27 May 1953. 1
5. [redacted] the bulk of the Bulgarian Army was composed of men from the classes of 1931 and 1932. The Air Force and the Navy still contain a high percentage of men from the class of 1930. A general call-up of the classes of 1933 and 1934 is imminent [redacted]

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6. [redacted] a special Army order (number unknown) was issued in 1952 decreeing that all men who have completed their regular military service are required to serve an additional six months prior to their thirty-sixth birthday. This six months was to be composed of three 2-month periods and the call-ups could be at any time. [redacted] this order was intended to give a legal basis for the 2-month recalls of reserves which have been made to train the reserves with new Soviet arms and equipment.

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7. The short (usually two months) training recalls of reserves are continuing. A group from the Nevrokop area was called up in December 1952. Those who had served their regular military service in the infantry units were held for three months, while the remainder stayed only two months. This group included three men from Musomishte, as follows:

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a. Yordan Dimitrov Shapkov, [redacted]

b. Khristo Iliev Babanov, [redacted]

c. Nikola Avramov, [redacted]

8. In January or February 1953, all military identification booklets of the reserves in Musomishte were called in to be checked. All men of the classes of 1915 to 1929 were required to appear in person before the Community Council and to bring with them their military booklets, their certificate of reserve rank (if any), their party membership book, and a medical certificate (if they were incapacitated at the time). A committee checked all the documents as each man presented them and retained only the military booklet. About two weeks later the military booklets were delivered to the homes of the men. Most of the booklets contained corrections in red ink, authenticated with a signature and a cachet from 39 Military District (Voenno Okruzhie), in Nevrokop.

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